

MARTIN
MARK-ALL,
BEADLE OF
BRIDEWELL;

His defence and Answer to the Belman of
L O N D O N.

Discovering the long-concealed Originall and Regiment of Rogues, when they first began to take head, and how they haue succeeded one the other successiuelly vnto the fixe and twentieth yeare of King H E N R Y the eight, gathered out of the Chronicle of Crackeropes, and (as they terme it) the Legend of L O S S E L S.

By S. R. *outlands.*

*Oderunt peccare boni virtutis amore,
Oderunt peccare mali formidine pœna.*

LONDON

Printed for John Budge, and Richard Bonian.

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MARTIN MARK-ALL

his Apologie, to the Bel-man
of London.



There hath been of late dayes great paines taken on the part of the good old Bel-man of London, in discovering as hee thinks, a new-found Nation and People, Let it be so for this time: hereupon much adoe was made in setting forth their liues, order of living, method of speech, and vsuall meetings, with diuers other things thereunto appertaining. These volumes and papers, now spread euerie where, so that euerie Jacke-boy now can say as well as the proudest of that fraternitie, (will you wapp for a toyn, or tranie for a make,) the gentle Company of Curstours began now to stirre, and looke about them, and hauing gathered together a Conuocation of Canting Caterpillars, as wel in the North parts at the * Diuels arse apeake, as in the South, They diligently enquired, and straight search was made, whether any had renolted from that faithles fellowship, herupon euery one gaue his verdict, some supposed that it might be some one, that hauing ventured too farre beyond wit and good taking herde was fallen into the hands of the Magistrate, and carried to the trauning Cheates, where in shew of a penitent heart, and remoarse of his good time ill spent, turned the cocke, and let out all: Others

* Where at this day the Rogues of the North part, once euerie three yeeres assemble in the night, because they will not be seene and espied, being a place to those that knowe it verie fit for that purpose, it being hollow, and made spacious vnder ground, at first by estimation halfe a-mile in compasse, but it hath such turnings and roundings in it, that a man may easily be lost, if hee enter not with a guide.

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thought it might be some spie-knaue, that hauing little to doe, tooke vpon him the habite and forme of an Hermite, and so by dayly commercing and discourfing learned in time the myfterie and knowlege of this ignoble profession: and others because it smelt a of a study, deemed it to be some of their owne companie, that had ben at some free-school, and belike because hee would be handfome against a good time, tooke pen and inke, and wrote of that subiect, thus, Tot homines, tot sententia, so many men, so many mindes. And all because the spightfull Poet would not set too his name. At last by starts an old Cacodemicall Academicke with his frize bonnet, and giues them al to know, that this inuectiue was set forth, made, and printed aboue Fortie yeeres agoe. And being then called, A caueat for Cursitors, is now newly printed, and termed, The Bel-man of London, made at first by one Master Harman a Iustice of Peace in Kent, in Quene Maries daies, he being then about ten yeeres of age.

At this newes the whole Company of Clapperdudgions, were indifferently well resolved, yet their mindes were not fully satisfied, because they knew not by whom this booke was set out, hereupon for this time the Synagogue of Sathan was dismissed, and the whole Regiment of Raggamuffins betooke themselves to their vsuall occupations, expecting that this villanous Ilwilder of theirs, at one time or other, would be knowne and brought to light. Not long after, this peruerse persecutor of poore Pilgrims, not content with the former iniurie done against them, but seeking by all meanes, to rote out and scatter them, if it were possible out of the land, raises new forces, and persecutes them, with fire, and sword, and deadly warre.

The furie and malice of the Bel-man once again burst abroad, and they not knowing the author of the first, now grow outrageous, begin to curse with Bell, booke, and

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and candle: That if he were to be knowne, they would spare neither cost nor labour for the search, and enquire of him forth.

Meane time the Rogues of the North, that had before met at the Dineles arse apeake, hearing of this vnerpected newes with rage inflamed, trot on their lustie tentoes, with bagge and baggage toward the Southerne Regiment, who being entertained with such welcomes and complements, as are vsed among themselves. They presently send to the Beadle of the Hall, to summon and warne, all of that Company and Fraternitie, to make his personal appearance at the Swan with five necks in Kings streete as the fittest place to receiue so ignoble a Court of Crack ropes.

The Congregation of Caterpillars gathered together, and the Court of Couzoners now set: bp starts a ragged ouer roasted Jacke of the Clocke house with his crutch in his hand, in stead of a Tip staffe, makes three solemn Oyes, which done with a fierie face, and filthy Throat, he proclaymes, as followeth.

All manner of people that were summoned to appeare here this day, before Corporall Fize chiefe Commander of the Regiment, and Corporation of good fellows, and Maunders, let them draw nere, and giue their attendance, for the Court is set.

As soone as euer the proclamation was ended, Lord, what a Companie of petitioners pressed to the barre to pferre their papers of iniuries, that were offered and done among themselves, here one complaines that hee could not trauell safely, nor cary any money without danger of the byright man and Tinker, but that they would robbe and spoyle them of all that was ought about them, here another that they could not quietly take their rest in the night, nor keepe his Autem, or dorie sole vnto himselfe: but that the Ruffler, padder, or any by

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right man, would take them away perforce, and others that they could not conuerse, and keepe company with those that they met, but that in the night they are sure to be Cloyd in the night, by the Angler, or hooker, or such like pilferers that liue vpon the spoyle of other poore people. These were generally the effect of their petitions, but O, if a man were there to heare the noyse, the clamour, and bawling that was there amonge them, you would sure thinke, that all the dogges in Parish garden were broke loose, and came thither on purpose to yawle: yea, I thinke in my conscience, Cerberus that three-throat horrible hel-bound neuer kept a more dolefull, nor horryd noyse, than those kennell of Clapperdungeons did at that time, but after that proclamation was made for silence, Corporall Fize chiefe Commander of that courte, began as followeth.

Corporall
Fize his speech
to appease the
tumult.

My friends and fellowes, our meeting here at this time is not to discusse and determine of matters betwene partie and partie. But our assembly now is to finde out, Iudge, and determine of one that of late hath published two malicious and iniurious Pamphlets: concerning vs and our whole course of life. Therefore, I would request you forbear vntill the Court haue fully finished and ended this matter: and if we haue any spare time after ward we will be ready to redresse any wronge, you, or any of you haue sustained. At this motion the wind was calme, then they proceeded to call forth the Graund Iurie, or Quest of Enquirie: who being called they did appeare, and then the charge was giuen them as followeth.

The



To the courteous Reader.

Gentlemen, a Preface to a Pamphlet is as foolish as fancied, and verses (*in laudem authoris*) are farre worse then a Horse-couriers commendation of a Smythfield-Iade, the one too too common, the other friuolous: for mine owne part, if the inside of my labour cannot winne your content, let the outside of the subiect shew his authours intent: I know I shall be contemned of some for being too forward, controlled of others who perhaps are rubbed on the sore, and condemned of a third sort for a loose stile and lame phrase: Indeed Gentlemen this I doe confesse, I shall bring vpon this great Stage of fooles (for *omne sub Sole vanitas*) a peece of folly; if such as count themselves wise dare venter the reading of it ouer, I cannot let them, but when they haue perused it, and finde therein nothing but folly, let them reprehend neither the worke nor workemaster, but rather themselves, in that they would spend their time so foolishly, being before warned of so foolish and idle a subiect.

Yours in loue,

S. R.



The Courtroom Reader.

to the Bel-man of London.

The names of the Graund Iurie, or Quest of en-
quiric of Crackropes.

A Nthonie ap Hugh, the Aplesquire of Apesbury. The Graund
Bartholmew Barfilching, the Bottlemaker of Bri- Inquest of
stow. Crackropes.

Christopher Chafelitter, the Chymneysweeper of Kno-
ctiwergos.

Demetrius Dingethrift, the Dorsermaker of Dozneby.

Edwin Eueldropper, the Cele-pie eater of Elton.

Friskin Fitz-Fizler, my Lady Brache Gent. Usher of
Feuertham.

Gregory Greenewinchard, the Gunfounder of Gog-
gleton.

Haunce Halterficke, the Harnismaker of Hornchurch.

Jefferie Iobbernall, the Jerkin maker of Jorley.

Kenericke Coleprophet, the Cockletaker of Canter-
burie.

Leacherous Lowficote, the Larke taker of Lalum.

Martin Marke-a-knaue, the Millstone cutter of Mar-
bury.

Nunquam Neuerthriue, the Puteracker of Petoverie.

Owin Ouerthwart, the Onion seller of Ockingham.

Peter Poundkarlicke, the Potchmaker of Pindle-
burie.

Quinton Corrifauell, the quacksaluer of Quanton.

Rowland Rinceprichard, the Ratcatcher of Ramsey.

Stephen Stinck-a-pace, the Solwelder of Stamford.

Timothy Hol-hazard, of Tritrace, the Tilemaker of
Tonbridge.

Vincent Veriknaue, the Wintener of the Wintry.

Wilkin wiredrawer, the Welsh wizard of Wickham.

Hextus Sextus, the Sexton of Sexbury.

Yanikin Yanner, the Yarne spinner of Yarmouth.

Nicholas Chatborne, the bowlle bagbearer, or Clarke

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of the Snapfacke, good men in nothing, but true in Tillanie, stand nere and heare your charge.

Corporall

FiZe his charge
to the Iurie.

My Masters of the Iurie, and you my good friendes; the cause of our vnerpected and vnaccustomed meeting at this time is not vnknewen vnto you all, how an vstart pamphletmaker and a most iniurious and Satirical Libeller hath of late dayes done as much as in him lieth: not onely to disgrace and defame our so auncient and long continuing profession: but also extirpe and ouerthrow all our customes, acts and ceremonies, which tunc out of minde haue bene accustomed, and now are daily in vse and custome among vs, The cause of this his muddie humour, I cannot guesse otherwise then this, that being wearie of his good name and reputation (if euer he had any) is now contented to disburden himselfe thereof: and giues the whole world to vnderstand, that delighting in Rogerie more then honestie: he would shew himselfe to be little better then a tame Rogue. The matter that he busieth himselfe about, sauoureth onely rancor and malice: The end whereat he ay meth, tendeth to death and desolation, subuersion of our state and fashion. And therefore my masters, it behooueth you as at all other times, so especially at this time, wisely and considerately to way and ponder of this fact, for it is not an offence against one or two priuate men: but it toucheth the whole company in generall. And therefore a thing not to be passed slightly ouer, you therefore that haue the managing of this businesse, without whom wee of our selues can proceed in nothing, you being our right hand herein, bend all your care for the good of this little Common-wealth. And as you are elected and chosen to suborne and vphold this small Regiment, so I pray you shew your selues, as I hope you will the true supporters and pillars of the same. But briesely to make an ende, because I purpose not to vse many words, you shall not

need

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need to enquire and search for the Autho^r, or his name of this inuective, for he is knowen. And in his second Round as he calles it, hath set to his name: and therefore you may saue that labour, your charge is onely to finde of the flaunder and scandall comprised in the Inditement, or no, if you finde him guiltie, you shall returne on the backe side of the Inditement that hee is guiltie, and so giue it in Court, that we may proceed against him accordingly: meane time because it is fit to proceed with equitie and iustice, and not to giue iudgement rashly and hastily against any man, before he haue made his Apologie, or purgation, our Pursuant shall bee speedily sent to him to bring him before vs, that he may aunswere to the obiections and crimes layde against him.

Straight was a stout sturdie and bigbone knaue sent in Embassage to Senior the Bel-man to appeare, who as soone as his message was deliuered (he need d not to be bid make haste) speedily hastens to the Belmans house, where he findes him at home by the fire side, mumbling a peece of bread and cheese. The Belman seeing this rude and unmannerly fellow come in puffing, without any God speed, was ready to choake for feare: but after they had parled on the matter, and deliuered his message, the Belman lockes fast his doore, and puts the key vnder the Still, and away they goe together toward the Court of Crackeropes. In the meane time the Iurie gaue by their verditte, they made not a long harvest of a little corne, but suddenly they laid their knaues heads together, and concluded that the Belman was guiltie of the flaunder comprised in the Inditement: and thereupon deliuered by againe the Inditement into the Court, and so for that time they all departed to dinner. By this time the Gentlemen of the ragged order, had almost dined, and now come in all haste, the Belman and his keeper,

B

who

A messenger
sent to call
the Bel-man.

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who as soone as they were now come; word was carried in to the Masters of misrule, that the Belman was in the hall ready to auouch what he had published: At this word they all straight rose (although scarce well dined) as all moued with a couelous and grædy desire to see the confusion of the poore Belman.

As soone as the Benchers of the ragged Robes were set, in was called the Belman to make his Apologie, where after he had made his appearance, The chiefe commaunder of Crackropes began thus as followeth.

Corporal Fize
his Oration to
the Belman.

Signior Belman, I maruell what madnesse hath bewitched you, or what furie hath made you so fantasticke thus to raile on vs poore Tlagrants, penillesse pilgrimes, hath your nightly watchings and continuall disorder of your braines so whozried your senses, that you can let lye at none other but on vs, poore forlozne wretches, that trouble you not, no not so much as once in seauen yeares.

Wee thinke it should haue bene your part rather to haue tolde of domesticall affaires and household matters, what good rule is kept among your watch, how here one lies drunke when he should stand Sentinel, There another lying along a sleepe vpon a bench complayning how his back akes, with carrying the Tankard and burthens in the day time; so that he were more fit to haue bene at home in bed a sleepe, then busied with any seruice for the City abroad at night, how you found this dore left open by Prentizes, either to let in their whores when their Masters be a sleepe, or to purloyn their Masters goods to maintaine their Trulls, here to finde out a knaue picking open a locke by the helpe of his black Arte, and there in a Taylors stall hote lururie making ryot. These and many more might you haue busied your braine about, and not thus scandalously and satirically to tyrannize ouer vs as your Crosbiters do ouer their Simplers.

to the Bel-man of London.

No, no, Goodman Bel-man, though we are of the contemned sort, yet we haue supporters, and those that will fight in our quarrell were you neuer so strong.

But to the matter, surely you thinke you haue done a noble exploit, thus to descry and declare to the worlde our manner of liuing and customarie lawes, our Innes, feasts, and meetings: And that herein you haue done the part of a good subiect, thus to Anatomize and picture out such kinde of people as you terme base, that liue by the sweat of other mens browes (as you say.) This I sent your reason, In deede I will say as you say: But shall I tell you, your praise had bene much more the greater, if you had searched into the particular enormities, & palpable villanies committed daily in your City: Let vs poore folke liue as wee doe, we doe no man hurt but our selues, nor no mans foe but our owne, we haue nothing but what other men can spare, other mens leauings are our refreshings, and if it were not for vs, much good meate would be in danger of fly-blowing, or cast to dogges. If there bee any in our vocation or calling, that liue disorderly and out of compasse, what trade can you name that doe not the like. If wee sometimes lie with our neighbours wiues, is it not vsuall elsewhere: (nay herein by your fauour, we doe best paint out the family of Loue, who doe not sticke but to haue all things in common:) If in bobwing we ouer-drinke our selues, doe not some of the best in your City do the like? If some make little conscience in lying, swearing, and stealing, I thinke fewe of your Trades-men goe free: If then it be all one in City as in Countrey, among the rich as amongst vs poore, and generally in all Trades and Occupations deceit and abuses, sith it is so that he that cannot dissemble cannot liue: why then should you bee so spitefull Goodman Haunsbell to inueigh against vs poore soules aboute the rest, who of all others, in shifting are the most simplest soules in this ouer wise world.

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But you good sir, like a Spider to entrappe onely the smallest flies, suffer the great ones to flie through, you scowze the ditch of a company of croaking frogs, when you leaue behinde you an infinite number of venomous Toades, you decypher and paint out a poore Rogue, or a Dorie that steale and rob hedges of a few ragged clothes (which you can make but petit larciney.) And neuer speake of those Vultures that ruine whole Lordships, and infect the common wealth, by their vallainous liuing to the discredit of some, and ill example to all.

Sir reuerence on your Mastership, good Was Belman, had you such a moate in your eie, that you could not see those Forfurd gentlemen, that harbour more deceit vnder their dammaske cassockes, then is in all the poore Rogues in a countrey, Brokers I meane and Usurers, that like vultures prey vpon the simple, those that are moaths in a Common wealth, liuing vpon the spoile of young gentlemen, as thirstie as a horse leech, that will neuer leaue drinkeing vntill he burst: A knaue that hath the interest in the leases of fortie balddie houses, and a receiuer of lifts, and a dishonourable supporter of Cutpurses, sleeping with his neighbours pledges all night in his bosome, and feeding vpon forfeits and penalties, as Ratiens doe vpon carrion, one that is a bolwie balddie miser, good for none but himselfe, and his trugge, the scumme of your seauen deadly sinnes, and an enemy to all good mindes.

What say you to these now, good Senior? Belman, had you not been better occupied to haue discovered, and layne open these kinde of Caterpillars then thus at Randum, to rayle on vs poore harmelesse Pilgrims, these are within your precinct and libertie, with whom you are dayly conuersant. But you will verifie the old saying, where the ditch is lowest, there men goe ouer thicke and threefold: but it seemes you durst not make any mention of these, because they bee your good Masters and Benefactors,

to the Bel-man of London.

refactors, but for my part I care for none of them, no more then they care for me.

The nearest to our profession that I knowe, you are most like to the whip-lacke, who (as you say) being an idle fellow, and a fresh-water souldier, neuer sayling further than Grauesend, will talke and prate of the low Countreys, of this battell, & that skirmish that he fought in, wheras indeed he neuer durst say so much as Boh to a House, so you neuer going further out of town then a farthing candle wil light, you will talke, & prate, & make a flourish of a number of things done both out of your precinct, and capacitie: say you are acquainted with all the damned Crew about the Citie, must it needs follow that you haue the insight and mystery of our calling and profession likewise? No good sir, knowe you are wide by the length of your nose, yea, and so wide that you shall neuer know the full depth thereof, vntill you haue vnder-taken the sublime habite, and shape of a poore Pilgrim, and humble Heremite. And so Benedicite.

After this profound Orator had thus bespoken, license was granted to the Bel-man, to make his answer and purgation, where when he had cleared his throat with a hem, and made himselfe readie for that purpose, he proceeded thus.

My Masters, and you that are here present to heare mee, I take no care how to answer you, knowing my cause to be iust and honest, it hath bene ever knowne, that those that haue guilty consciences wil thinke, that e-
very thing that is said is spoken against themselves. And now I finde it too true, that it is not good meddling with galled Iades, least they winch and kicke. For mine own part, what I haue saide I dare auouch, and I am fully resolved to stand to my tackling, come what tempest will. And since you haue giuen me leaue freely to speak my mind without interruption, I will begin with your liues, and shew you how wilde and base it is before God

The Belmans
Answer and
defence

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and the world. For I thinke there be none here but such as you call **Maunders**, **Clapperdungeons**, and a few **Wadders**, and those of the meanest sort, al which I may rightly term you, & giue you this one name **drowlie Drones**, and **lowlie Lopterers**: and what is a **Lopterer** or **Drone**, nothing but a sucker of honie, a spoyler of corne, a destroyer of fruit, a waster of mony, a spoyler of victuall, a sucker of blood, a breaker of good orders, a seker of brawls, a queller of life, a **Baseliske** of a cōmon wealth, which by companie and sight doth poyson a whole countrey, and stayneth honest minds with the infection of his venome, and so draweth the **Common wealth** to death and destruction, and such is the end of your liues & commanding: when we see a great number of flies in a yere, we iudg it like to be a great plague: and hauing so great a swarming of loytering bagabonds, & sturdie Rogues readie to brawle and swagger at euery mans doore, doth it not declare a greater infection readie to ensue.

Who therefore can other wise dēme. But that this pestilence wherewith this our flourishing **Common wealth** is so plagued with, is aboue all other most pestilent, yea and so pestiferous, that indeede there can bee no more hurtfull a thing to a wel gouerned estate: and therefore it is not onely most odious, but also pestilent in that it hath spotted the whole Countrey with such a staine and blot of idlenesse.

What say you to a number of **Bagabonds**, and **sturdy Rogues** that after the ouerthrow of the enemy, and breaking vp of the Campe, will swarme in euery corner of the Realme, and not only lie loytering vnder hedges, but also stand sturdely in Cities, and begge boldly at euery doore, leauing labour which they like not, and following Idlenesse which they should not? For after wars it is commonly scene that those that went out honest, returne home againe like **Roysters**: and as they were brent to the warres bottome, they haue euer after all their

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their daies an vnſauoyr ſmacke thereof, and ſmell ſtill towards day ſleepers and hedge-croppers, purſe-cutters, padders, quarrellers and blood ſhedders.

As it not ſene commonly after wars, more robbing, thriuing, begging and murdering then beſore: and thoſe to ſtand in high waies to aſke Almes, whom men are afraid to ſay nay vnto honeſtly, leaſt it be taken away from them violently, and haue more cauſe to ſuſpect their ſtrength, then to pittie their neede: men cannot ſafely ride in the high way, vnleſſe they ride ſtronge: worke is left at home vndone, and loyterers laze in the ſtreete, lurke in Ale-houſes, and range in the high waies: ſturdy knaues play in Towns, and complaine of neede, whoſe filchman or ſtaffe, if it be once warme in their hands, or ſuggiſhnes bred in their boſome, they will neuer be allured to worke, according to the ſaying that you haue among your ſelues (If you can Cant, you will neuer worke) ſhe wing, that if they haue bene rogues ſo long, that they can Cant, they will neuer ſettle themſelues to labour againe. And what more noyſome beaſts in a Common wealth can there be, then you loyterers are: Diuers vermine deſtroy corne, kill pullen, and engines and ſnares are made for them: but for your ſelues, although you are made men that ſhould haue reaſon, yet nothing will ſerue to bridle you, or keepe you in compaſſe, vntill your neck be compaſſed with a With or Walter.

And what a grieve is it to an honeſt man, to labor truly in youth, and to gaine painefully by labour, where with to liue honeſtly in age, and to haue this (gotten in a long time) to be ſuddenly caught and rapt away by violence.

Here the Bel man would haue ſaid more, and ſcarce hitherto could they refraine themſelues, but with indignation and choler, were ready to teare the poore Bel man in peeces amongst them; for the Sunne being in Can-

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A post from
Don-Purloy-
ningo.

His Message
to the Court
of Crack-
ropes.

Cancer, and the Midsomer Moone at full : their mindes were imbued with such follies, and their heads carried away with such vanities, that as men of Athens, they would heare no man speake but themselues, and thought nothing well said, but what came out of their owne mouthes. But after the storme was past, and an Order was made for silence, in comes a Poste and Messenger in all hast from Don-Pourloyningo of Theuen- gen, to the Masters and gouernours of this wicked Ra- blement, in this fashion :

Wome my Masters, I bring you newes, not common tydings of olde matters, but an answer of your letters of complaint, sent to my Master Don-Pourloyningo : They came to his hands, he hath perused them, and sent you his generall protection, to defend you from the handes of the impatient and seuerer people : now you may be of good comfort, and pull up your hearts : if you offend againe, you neede feare no punishment, but swag- ger till your guts cracke : you shall haue all at your owne willes to the full : Nay, tis true as I tell you ; if you wil not beleue, you shall see his letters of comfort and wri- ting Consolatory, which he hath graunted in fauour to you : dispatch, get by all your trumpery, for the shippes will be ready for you at the next winde. With that he pulled forth of his pocket the protection sent from Don Purloyningo, which followeth. But before we goe any further, you shall heare the Copie of the Letter, sent by them to this new found Knight : The Indorsement of which is thus.

To

to the Bel-man of London.

To the thrise Renowned Potentate
Don-Purloyningo, cheife Gouver-
nour of the Region of Theuingen.

CReeping at your vnreuerend fete your Suppliants, Corporall
the Gentlemen of the ragged Order. That where Fize his letter
as in all places we are daily persecuted by all sortes of to Don Pur-
Officers, as Marshalls, Beadles, Sergeants, Bayliffes, loyningo.
Constables, and such other officers, lying continually as
spyes to entrappe and catch vs poore soules, as wee are
following our callings in Markets, Faires, frayes,
thzongs, and assemblies, wherein heretofore we haue li-
ued reasonable well, though not with any great credite,
yet boyde of suspicion or apprehension: and being so ta-
ken, haue beene carried to places of correction, there wo-
fully tormented by Blew-coates, cowardly fellowes,
that durst not let vs haue our hands at liberty; but
without al humanity, haue so scourged vs, that flesh and
blood could hardly endure it. And whereas our prede-
cessours before, for the good of this Common-wealth of
ours, tooke great paines in deuising a new speech or lan-
guage, to the end we might vtter our mindes freely, and
speake boldly without controulement one to another,
which no doubt was a great helpe to vs and our prede-
cessours heretofore; yet such is the malice of some enui-
ous il-willer of ours, that hath we know not how, not
onely discovered our maners and fashions, but also this
our language and speech, whereby we are often times
ouer-hard, and taken and sent to prisons and tortures,
and onely by our owne confessions, which we haue vte-
red in this our language, and which we haue trusted vnto

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to vs boldly, as if wee had beene safe bolted in a Castle or strong hold. Now forasmuch as wee haue not any friend to whom we may haue accesse that will heare or tender our causes in these affaires, we know not whether to resort for aide, but to your good worshippinge, who wee assure our selues loue and fauour vs, and will stretch your selfe to the vttermost of your power, for our enlargement and delinerie from these perplexities by your mediation to Papa Belzebub the blacke Prince: for whose sake we haue endured many bitter stormes, cursings and reuylings contrarie to our expectation when we first began to practise our trade and occupation.

Besides the losse of many good booties, as silver, plate, Jewels, apparrell and such like things, which when we haue singled to doe vs credite, haue bene taken as wayfes to our great impouerishments, when wee haue bene driuen to yelde to the officers, by which we finding our selues to grow so weake in purse, dare hardly aduenture to get to discharge our daily consumations and expences: nay although we would, we cannot; for the very bulgar are growne so craftie, that we are known so well as the beggar knowes his dish, although we dissemble our habites and estates neuer so much.

Therefore presuming you will vngratiously consider of our hardnesse, and speedily fetch vs away from these places which in torture, as to vs more hote then hell: we lie thicke and three-fold vnder staules, bulkes and hedges, praying for your worshipping, whose good word we make no question of, knowing well the pittie remayning in your good head, and often extended in loue to vs, expecting your answer, we leaue you.

Yours in the basest fashion,

The Derickmans.

to the Bel-man of London.

Don Purloyningo at the receit of these wofull letters, hauing an extraordinary tender care ouer them, as being of one stock and kindred, hath first inuented a course for their transportation and conueyance into his Territories and Dominions, considering how they are likely to decrease, and their trade like to faile, through the proditiions and betrayings of the people which are contrary to them, and of another sex, hath appointed them a place, set and being in the plaine Country of Theuingen nere Innaues-borough plaine, for their more quiet and peaceable living: which place, and whose manners I thinke good to describe, being that it was neuer heard of, vntill of late daies; to the intent that such as shall by Don Purloyningo his Patent, haue right and title there, in the confines of the same land, may make a preparado to haue passage when the winde shall sit faire for that place and voyage.

By M.I.H.

The description of the state and situation of Theuingen, with the nature and disposition of the people there

INHABITING.

The land of Theuingen is a Countrey bordering upon the famous and thrice renowned Citie* Gaza philatium: it is a Countrey vast, full of desarts and thick woods: and although the land be mightily replenished with all sorts of nations and people, yet is it turned to no vse at all, neither for pasture nor arable, but only an amere wilderness, it hath bene a Countrey inhabited from the beginning, although not discovered so plainly heretofore as of late daies; people from all Countries daily resort

* Signifying a close & strong place to keepe Treasure in.

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and flocke thither for ease and quietnesse, as the Proditors, Curtatozences, Vacabundi Piratorij, Jesuites, Seminaries, and generally all of the Popes Sectaries, all murderers, out-lawes and fugitives, Banckrouts and Brokers to the diuels grace, Parasits, day sleepers, and generally all that haue fought in defence of Lecheritania: These are naturally giuen and inclined to idlenesse and lazie liues, insomuch that it commeth to passe, that being hungry they will steale one from another, and often cut one anothers throates: They neuer take paines for any thing they haue, and yet they haue all thinges without money. Their Ware is of that force, and so mightie, that it serueth them in steade of meate, drinke, fire, and apparrell, which they learne of their neighbour Drinktalianians to brew: And they haue the praise aboue all other, farre beyond the Darbalianians, the Labourinbaynalianians or the Pymlyconians.

The City Gazaphilacium.

Close vpon this Countrey Eastward, is situate a goodly, faire, and most rich Citie, called, as I said before Gazaphilacium: this Citie is very strongly defended, for it is inuironed about with a wall of Silver beaten out with the hammer; and yet for all this, the Inhabitants are very couetous, and fearesfull to lose that which they haue got together. And for that it is so rich and opulent; all the whole world are daylie plotting how to supprize the same, sometimes with policie, and sometimes by force: but aboue all the rest, they are troubled and pestered with the Thewengers that they are forced day and night to keepe continuall watch and yet for all that, doe what they can, they are so pilled and robbed by them, vpon the Sea Coasts called Mare Discontentaneum, that often times they are driuen into great ertasies and perplexities.

The people Melancholy.

These are altogether bent to Malancholy, and giuen much to be malecontent, for that the Sea Mare Discontentaneum floweth often ouer the banckes of this Countrey

to the Bel-man of London.

they at euery full Moone; as also because this land being full of Creekes and small Riueres, which runne out and in this Sea, and the Inhabitants vsing to liue there of; hauing little or no other water for their sustenance and contentation, dooth so worke within their bodies, such a distemperature, that thereof proceedeth a maruelous lumpishnesse and melancholy blockishnesse in their willes and dispositions, some to cruell murders, others to plot Treasons, some to burne houses, and others to runne mad for reuenge; so that the Inhabitants round about them are wonderfully plagued with them, as the Catealians, the Drunkalians, Lecheritaniens, and especially the Folianders, who oftentimes are couened and cheated of so much siluer and riches in an houre, as they haue bene gathering and raking together in tenne yeares before.

They are of a strange Religion, for they feare neither God nor y diuel: their first father was Caine, from whence proceeded the race of Nunagates, for after that Caine had murdered his brother, I suppose hee ran away out of his native country into this new found land to hide himself, wherin he liued some few yeeres & died, whose posterity from age to age haue possessed the same. And at this day there is a monument, called in times past Canabels Pyramides; to blot out the remembrance of which, they haue inuented long Canes and stone pottes, in forme of that monument, still retayning the forme, but altering the matter or substance.

They haue an imperiall seate of blacke and brittle substance, and therefore subiect to mouldering, as fast therfore as that consumes away, there are workmen daily appointed to maintain and repaire the same: there are 7. wise Men. of his counsell, the wisest wherof once in foure & twenty houres, declares himselfe openly: But Ingle-bells at the vpper end of Whit-crosse-street, comes Countrey fashion. f Subperbranes.

^{a b} Not so much with the recited misdemeanors, as in coufening and deceiuing them of Victuals, and Beere, which by long running on the Score, often is scene.

^c Making faire promises but no deedes.

^d Which is as much to say, the remembrance of our great Grandfather Caine who was a runagate, for killing his brother Abel.

^e Now called Canabello quasi, Can and a bel: Because Cans with bells are there altogether vsed, such a one is in Houndsditch with vs, but it is a Polony Shoe with a Bel, that will not be left for ten pound, because he hath it by inheritance.

very neere this

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a notorious scole by custome: all their counsell plotting and deuising is to surprise that goodly Citie Gazaphilatum: their minds are as braue as Casars, for their wils must stand for lawes: they are possess with a very humerous disposition of flattery, for they will looke you in the face smilingly, and in the meane time picke your pocket: And for their apparell they are so phantasticke, that to day they will goe in a sute of Sattin, and to morrow in tottered ragges, to day a pound, and to morrow nere a penny.

Their Language.

They haue a language among themselves, composed of omnium gatherum; a glimmering whereof one of late daies hath endeououred to manifest, as farre as his Author is pleased to be an intelligencer; The substance whereof, he leaueth for those that will dilate thereof, enough for him to haue the praise, other the paines, notwithstanding Harmans ghost continually clogging his conscience with *Sic vos non vobis*.

The fashion of their Houses.

Upon their banners they display an Owle in an Ivy tree with this Motto proceeding out of his mouth, *desertis desertus*. Their houses are made cursary like our Coaches with foure wheeles that may be drawne from place to place, for they continue not long in a place: and although this Countrey be their owne by inheritance, yet now it is peopled and inhabited by the Catealians, Drunkalians, and people of other nations, who do dwel and haue increased marueilously since the late discovery of this Countrey by Master I.H. Pea sometimes like to the Snaille they carry their houses about them, like good husbands which are made and tempered of such fine stufte, that when they are hungry they may feede thereof; insomuch oftentimes it comes to passe, that hauinge eaten by their lodging, they are faine to lie in the strubble for want of featherbeds.

They aboue all other people obserue that auncient commaund: Care not for to morrow, for to morrow will care

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care for it selfe; imitating the men of the olde world, who taking vpon them the habite of pilgrims and Fryars, carry neither wallet nor scripp, nor yet oftentimes any money in their purses.

In a large and spacious plain called **Knaues-borough** Knaues-borow **plaine**, doth Don-Purloyningo keepe his Court, which plaine. many men of sundry nations and trades haue desired to see and to behold; who when they haue had their desire, and remained but some small time there, haue so fashioned themselves to the manners and conditions of those people, that many haue from thenceforth turned Turks, smelled of the Countrey, and sauored of their detestable and bitious kinde of life all their daies after: and most of your traouellers hitherto are your vaine and curious Taylors, Wyliners, Tyrewoman, Semsters, S. Martin obseruants, Shuttle-rocke and Farthingal makers, and twenty other occupations, who to fill the world full of vanities and toyes, care not whither they trauell, so they may finde out new fashions and fooleries to coulsen and deceiue the whole Countrey againe.

In this plaine are situate diuers petty villages and hamlets, as **Filchington**, **Foyltham**, **Pymington**, **Liftington**, **Swearinghampton**, the great and the little. These townes at first were made to entertaine and lodge all such Trauellers as came to see that auncient seate of Don-Purloyningo, who were so named, as the Pharoes in Egypt, the Ptolomeys in Greece, the Cesars in Rome. Now people strangers finding the Countrey very pleasant to inhabite, take vp their aboade and content themselves there to liue and die. The end of their trauell is not so much for curiosity, necessity or pleasure, as for their experience and learning: The ready high way to this pallace; and the chiefe places of aboade and lodging in this iourney, I will bræfely set downe as sitting most directly for the Latitude of great Britaine, and generally for the whole world.

The

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The first day then that they leaue their owne natiue Countrey, & begin to enter the Dominions of Don-Purloyningo, they passe along a very faire Meddow, passing pleasant to the eye, which is in the confines and vttermost part of Fcolania the lesse: but after halfe a daies iourney, they come to bogs and quagmyres, much like to them in Ireland, of which vntlesse they be very carefull, they may quickly slippe vpon ouer head and eares in myre.

The first daies
iourney.

Having past the pikes of the first daies danger, they enter into a godly faire Pallace, but inhabited by few, hauing this superscription ouer the gates, AEthiopen lauas, whereupon our English Trauellers call it the Labour-in-Vaine: here many at the first are purposed to remaine and abide: but seeing the place very spacious and without any Inhabitants, and vsed onely as a Tap-house for Trauellers, they take it for their lodging the first night, and away they hast in the morning forward on their iourney.

The second
daies iourney

The second day after thre or foure myle, they ascend very high and craggy Mountaines, farre passing the Cle or Mauluern hills in Wales, wher when they come downe againe, at the fote of these hilles standeth yet at this day, the Image of the Vicar of Saint Foles, to which euery passenger before hee can passe, must offer vpon his knees for his passe and safe conduct through the Country of Fcolania the great (Thirty Word).

The City Va-
nita.

Madona Insta-
bita.

Noting the fe-
nen deadly
sinnes.

In the middle of this Countrie is built a very faire Citie called (Vanita) beautifull to the eye, but of no permanence, for it is built after such a slight manner, that they are faine to re-edifie their houses, walls, and Temples euery yeare a new: This Citie is gouerned by a woman called Madona Instabilita, sitting vpon an Imperiall Throne, farre excellent beyond the seate of Rome, she weares vpon her head seuen Imperiall Diadems: she is of that power and command, that she makes the proude

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proude Pope to be at her obeysance : yea and so rules in his Dominions that his land is altogether gouerned by her and her Councell.

Their Citie walles seeme to be made of chaungeable Taffety, their houses of painted papers, of sundry colours; they are busied all day about nothing but inuention of new fashions, of Tires, garments, behaviours, speeches, wordes, and Dthes: In their apparell phantasie; their hats sometime of the Italian blocke, another while of the French, and another time of the Spanish: their Doublets with great bellies with the Dutchmen, and small skirts; sometimes with small skirts, and sleeves seamed, and quartered, as if they were to put on Armour of proose, to fight vnder the bloody ensigne of the Duke of Shordich: their hose sometimes Spanish, like to Ship mens hose, and sometimes close to the buttocke like the Venetian galligascoigne: Lord, it would aske a whole Reame of paper to discribe their fashions; It were tedious likewise to speak of the variety of their Shooes, and of their Shoo strings, Garters, Cuffes, Kuffes, Hat bands, and all things they weare, not one moneth, nay scarce a weeke doe they continue in one fashion: for their liues they are dissolute in behaviour, Apish, doggish, and Swinish, according to the disposition of their bodie, flattering in speech, deceitfull in words, and in Dthes not a diuell can surpasse them: In all sin they abound, because with them they haue a toleration, like to Rome, Omnia Venalia Romæ. Our gallants in England come most nere them in fashions and behaviour: too nere them, more is the pittie. Through this Citie thou maiest passe along, but see thou carry not long there, onely marke them and their fashions, as superficially as thou art able, least too much desiring their company, thou art forced in the end to crie out thus: O paine thou art compaine too nigh.

Among the rest, this is to be noted, that in the midst

D

The cities
description, &
the fashions of
the people
there.

The Fountain
Tribulamenti
Fons,
of

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of this City there issueth out of the earth, a spring in great abundance, which is walled about with Marble, and serueth the Inhabitants to bathe and wash themselves, much like to our bathes here in Europe, onely it is of another operation: The people there call this bath Tribulamenti fons; & it runneth from thence with a swift course along the fieldes and waves with a thousand turnings and wyndings, untill it come to a steepe promontory, that overlooketh all the countrey of Theuingen, Lecheritania, and the rest, and there maketh so great and violent a fall, that it spreadeth it selfe, and runneth round about the Countries by diuers small crækes and Riuers, where meeting with other small Springs of the same nature, run altogether, as by one consent into the Sea called Mare Discontentaneum.

The third
dayes iourney.

Leauing this City as well as you can, you passe a whole day along towards Theuingen, crossing this Riuer twenty times ouer strait and narrow bridges, untill you come to this steepe and high Mountaine before spoken of: vpon the edge whereof, dwelleth an old Hermit called father Aduisall, a man aged and of long continuance, and therefore well experienced in the world: a hater of flattery, and a louer of truth. As soone as you come to that place, this new wel-willer of yours will straight be in hand with you to know from whence you came, whither you meane to goe in so dangerous a place, and in mere loue and pittie wil be Inquisitiue how you durst trauell without a warrant from the Magistrate of your Countrey, perswading you by all meanes, to returne back, and not venture your life in so dangerous a Countrey as that is, telling you that fewe returne backe the same men they were, when they first entred that land, but that some returne maymed and lame, others sicke of one disease or other, and others of frenzie and madnesse, so contaminat a place, so loathsome the manners, so despised a Countrey, that a man vlesse he were halfe be-
sides

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fides himselfe would neuer once desire to beholde that
 place. Thus, and to this effect will he speake, and many
 good perswasions will this good old man vse, and many
 motiues he will vrge you with to retire, but all in vaine,
 for when men feele the Reines of liberty on their necks,
 and may take a course without controlement, such,
 whose lust is law, and whose will must not be control-
 ed for a world, little regarding all wise admonitions or
 sayings of the aged, doe with the vntamed Colt, and
 fat fedde Steede, let flie their heeles into the ayre, and
 with the extrauagant and erring libertine run headlong
 into a thousand eminent dangers: then when the blacke
 Dre hath trod vpon their fate, and haue bene well bea-
 ten with their owne rodde, in the end they come home
 by weeping crosse, and crie Pecaui, when their ambitious
 conceits gaines them nought but this, to comfort them
 in their destruction, that when by their aspiring bzaine,
 they haue procured their owne ouerthrow: men may
 say after their deaths, this fellow carried a braue minde
 and shot at mighty matters.

*Didis tamen ille
 repugnat, Pro-
 positumq; petit
 Flagratq; cupi-
 dine currus.*

*Hic situs est
 Phaeton currus
 auriga paterni
 Quem si non
 tenuit, magnis
 tamen excidit
 ausis.*

But to returne, leauing father Aduisall with his good
 aduise behinde, and following vice now before you, you
 must downe this hill (you neede no helpe downe) at the
 bottome whereof, you shall be at a trice. And albeit it
 be tenne dayes iourney vp, yet so is the steepnes thereof,
 that you shall be conueyed to the bottome in halfe an ho-
 wer: at the foote of this Mountaine are two great p^{er} Two port
 wayes, the one on the right hand, leading to the Coun- waies.
 tryes of Lecheritania, Drunkalia and Catealia, and the
 other on the left hand, leading toward Theuingen and
 the neighbour Countries thereabout. To leaue the right
 hand way for such as haue trauelled thither to discourse
 on, we wil take our iourney toward Don Purloyningoes
 Pallace: this onely by the way, about tenne myles from
 the foote of this hill in Lecheritania standeth the Tem-
 ple of Venus, and there is the godly picture of Venus fra-

*Temple of Ve-
 nus and her
 picture.*

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med of Silver, naked in her Chariot, drawne by two Swannes and two Doves, her head bound with myrtle leaues, a burning starre on her breast, a Globe representing the earth in her right hand, and three golden Apples in her left, behinde her were the three Graces back to backe, hand in hand, and Apples in their hands: not farre off that place, is likewise to be scene the Storie of Venus her originall, liuely painted out, how Saturne de- priued his father Celus, of those partes which were fit- test for generation, and throlwing them into the Sea by wonderful power, La. Venus was made, the blood wher- of falling short, fell into the land of Theuingen. which Countrey we are now about; of which sprange fierce, hote, and cruell people, with which at this day the land is mightily replemished and pestered.

The originall
of these peo-
ple.

Concerning the originall and beginning of these peo- ple, Historiographers doe differ and disagree: Leo He- breus out of the auncient Poet Pronapides, reports that Demogorgon perceiued that a dangerous and perniti- ons tumult was breeding in the bowels of Chaos: wher- fore of very loue and pitie, he stretched out his hand and opened her womb, whence presently issued forth a most deformed issue called Litigium, which no sooner appeared but presently it bred brabbles, and made such a foule sturre, that it waxed proude, and stroue to mount vp to heauen: but Demogorgon foresceing what would ensue, threwe him downe with his necke forward into this Countrey.

But others more likely, report that they came of Nep- tune and Iphimedeia, which very well may be, for Nep- tunes blood is furious and vnrueley, by reason of the su- perabundant store of vnbri- dled humors, and Iphimedeia is nothing else but an obstinate and selfe-wild conceit, and desire; grounded in the minde, and not remouenable: such are your idle vagabonds, that after war wil betake themselves to no honest course of life to liue in, but bee
robbers

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robbers by the high waies, cousoners and cony-catchers, that lue by their wits, and wil not betake them to honest trades, but especially seditious & rebellious subjects in a Common-wealth, schismatical and hereticall seducers in the Church, as Brownists, Papists, Jesuites and such like. And for this cause as there was a Schoole erected for villaines in times past called Cacademica Lycaon, so called because hee was the first that did violate the lawes of truce, and league, by killing and sacrificing vnto Iupiter a certaine hostage, sent from the Molesse, whereof came the fable, that he set mans flesh before Iupiter, to trie whether he were a God or no: So the Pope now hath erected another, because this was not large enough called (Sattani Senatus) wherein is taught the arte of stabbing, poisoning, betraying, perjury, treason in all degrees, blowing vp and consuming by Gun-powder, Witchcraft and Sorcery, Sedemytry and Buggerie, torments for innocents. And in truth for the atchieving and bringing to passe of all mischief: so that now if any be so minded to murder his Prince, Father or Mother, friend, wife or any else, he shalbe here protected, holpen, backt, encouraged, and pardons graunted for them and their children for ever.

After a daies iourney, you shall come into desarts and solitary Woodes, wherein you shall see very strange and fearefull sights, and apparitions: there will appear to you monsters that haue faces and bodies comelylike to women, ready to allure and entice you with them, but their lower partes are ugly and deformed, hauing vpon their handes and feete sharpe clasping clawes, that if they once graspe you, you shall hardly escape their clutches. And if they seaze on you, they wil bring you out of the way, through distraught and feare, untill you meete another company more horrid and terrible: Their Haire all

The fourth
dayes Iourney
fearefull sights
and Monsters.

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of crawling snakes, their garments down to the heeles, close girt with a snakie girdle, serpents in the one hand and firebrands in the other, their eyes, face, and teeth porfending malice and vengeance: these are the ministers of death, they dwell in darke denues thereabout, their office is to bring such passengers as trauell that way to a most vnspeakeable horryd denue, out of which procedes so noysome an exhalation, that birds as they flie ouer the same are popsoned with the very breath and ayre thereof. This is that place which in the old world was called Auernus, round about which, and at the entrance of which Caue, Virgill 6. Aenead. placeth a rablement, as woe, vengeance, wrath, sickenes, old age, feare, famine, penury, death, labour, sleepe, warre, discord and such like: in the midst of this Caue, is seated an Imperi- all Throane, whereon sittes the blacke Prince with a crowne on his head, a Scepter in his hand, and his great dogge Cerberus betwene his fete, saluaging on those that come in, but deuouring those that seeke to goe out. But to leaue this way, if thou be wise, take heede of the first insinuating flatterers, leaue their pretended friendship and keepe on thy way.

Auernus.

In this Country nothing is worthy of praise or commendation, for in all this solitary traouelling, you shall finde no comfort, but the skr iching of Owles, croking of Rauens, and such vncouth and palefull Ecchoes, the best part of your foode will be hearbe Rue, a bitter hearbe to feede on: but after when you haue better looked into your liues and carriages, you wil cal it herb-grace, your drinke is altogether of the water of that Countrey, called throughout Aqua discontentanea.

*The first dayes
Journey.*

After two or thre daies thus traouelling, you shall come into a faire plaine, called Inaues-borough plaine, wherein Don Purloyningo keepes his Court; you shall at the first be made very welcome, yet so that they will narrowly spie into your carriage and behaviour: And
although

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although they pretend neuer so greate loue and friendship vnto you, yet will they not sticke to couzen and deceiue you if they can, of all you haue.

And thus much for the description of the state and situation of Theuingen, with the nature and disposition of the people there inhabiting. And now to giue ouer this tedious Journey, you shall heare the protection of Don Purloyningo, sent to Corporall Fize, chiefe commander of Rogues, and his Assistantes. The Copy whereof is as followeth.

The copie of the Commission and Graunt, sent from Don Purloyningo to Corporall Fize and his Assistants.

I Don Purloyningo, great Commander ouer the Province of Theuingen, haue receiued diuers wofull and pittifull letters from sundry nations and people, but especially from those vnder the gouernment of Corporall Fize, chiefe commander of the poore persecuted Pilgrims in Europe, wherein they lay open to mee their wofull sorrowes, verations, and troubles that they endure by sundry persons, in sundry places where they abide. Now forasmuch as it is not onely a Charity, to redresse their foresaid griefes, by sending for them into a Countrey where they shall be at quiet and hearts ease, but also a pleasure to people of better fashion, that cannot by any meanes digest their idle and vntoward liues, which may proue hurtfull both to King and people: Be it therefore knowne, that I haue graunted to all persons whatsoever, that will take the benefite of this my Grant and Commission, free leaue and license to come and inhabite
within:

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Within my Countrey of Theuingen, and the profitcs of my land, to vse and enioy as freely without contradi-
on, as if they were there bred and borne.

Now for the more speedie execution of the same, we command all Saylers as well within our Iurisdiction, as without, that they make present search for all olde Boates, Voyes, Shippes and Barkes, which haue long rested to be ready for this voyage: and that all thinges be in a readinesse, to the end that when they are in a good nitude, they may be gone, that neuer after any good land be troubled and combzed with so filthy and noysom a people.

And that all Carmen, Cochmen, and Carters haue their charge in a readinesse at a day, that they may bee carried in pompe to the water sides: and that all Trumpeters, Bagpipers, Fidlors and Drummers be ready with their musique to bring them onward of their iourney. Moreover we commaund all Taylors to open their prison doores, and let them all out that meane to see my Dominions, and that neuer hereafter they once suffer any to come within their hold or Iurisdiction: and further vpon their departure we will all inuentions for punishments appointed for the torturing of such persons be immediately pulled downe, cut in peeces, and be made in Bon-fires, for ioy that the land is disburdened of so loathsome a people.

And further we expressly commaund that the Saylers and Marriners (because we know them to be hasty and surly) to vse them kindly, and not by any means to crosse them, least they take snuffe in the nose, and so fall together by the eares: for they being very cholericke (as we haue heard) are subiect to disagreeing.

And that at their arrinall, they be presently placed e-
very one according to his degree, and that with quietnes they receiue the profitcs of my land, without the let of those, that haue bene dead five hundred yeares before.

Fur-

to the Bel-man of London.

Further that no man mocke or delude them, or so much as bid them farewell, for feare that a little familiarity cause them to haue a desire to remaine and tarry rather then to walke: but let them haue quiet passing, because they goe to a land better for their turnes, for they desire only ease, which there they shall haue, if once they can arriue and get to the borders thereof.

These our Letters and Commission now at your request graunted, our desire is, that you may doe well, if other wise betyde you then well, looke to your selues, and vse your owne discretions; and so fare you well.

At this newes the whole fraternity of Magabonds whooted for ioy, as glad at the heart to thinke what a swaggering and domineering they should keepe in this new found land, and wherein they made account to be young Lords and Masters: so that the poore honest Bel-man had license without any controlement or contradiction to depart: and if he would spit out any more his malice against them, let him spit till hee were dye for them, for they would little regard what he did, and cared not two chips, because they were determined to trauell, and meant to be out of the walkes and dangers of the honest.

Now Gentlemen (by my troth) I could finde in my heart to haue spent a bottle of Ale, that you had bene there with me, to haue seene the concourse of these Caterpillers, and heard the confused noyse of these cousing Crack-ropes, singing, hollowing and whooping, dancing and whistling: at this time there you should haue seene one that had bene lame nere fortie yeares, and gone on his Crowches fiftene to my knowledge, throw away his skits, and daunce the round Morrice: there another that putteth on a foule cloth on his head counterfeiting the falling sicknesse, throw it away in a corner, and falles to swagger with his Dorie: here an
C other

Martin Mark-all his Apologic

ther with pitifull soze legges and armes to see to, can now leape and wassle as well as the best, and diuers with scalde pates and other diseases going before double in the streets, to cause and moue pittie, can now for ioy stand on their heads, fetch frisks about the house, pull one another by the eares: and indeede what did they not doe: none could perceiue but that they were all youthfull and lusty.

* All tooke all pleasure, and all for ioy to be sayling.

*Hoist vp saylors, the drummers and pipers are at hand, lay plancks, make ready, they come, they come: A iolly crue, God send they want no shipping: A faire company I promise you, when they are all gone, we shall haue corn good cheape, Ware your purses hoe.

Suppose now by this the greatest part of them are sayling on the blacke Sea, what will become of them, how they arriued, how entertained by the Inhabitants there, and of their prosperous boyage, you shall heare at the next boat-post. In the meane time, because the Wel-man entreateth any that is more rich in canting, to lend him better or more with variety, he will repay his loue double: I haue thought good not only to shew his errour in some places in setting downe olde wordes used fortie yeeres agoe before he was borne; for wordes that are used in these dayes (although he is bold to call me an vsurper (for so he doth in his last round) and not able to maintayne the title) But haue enlarged his Dictionary (or Master Harimans) with such wordes as I thinke he neuer heard of (and yet in vse too) but not out of vaine glorie, as his ambition is, but indeede as an experienced souldier that hath dearly paid for it: and therefore it shall be honour good enough for him (if not too good) to come vp with the Keare (I doe but shote your owne arrowe backe againe) and not to haue the leading of the Van as he meanes to doe, although small credite in the end will redound to eyther.

You shall know the wordes not set in eyther his Dictionaries by this marke s: and for shewing the errour in his words, and true englishing of the same and other, this marke ¶ shall serue.

§ Abram madde.

§ He

to the Bel-man of London.

§ He maunds Abram, he begs as a madde man.

Autem the Church.

Autem mort, a married woman.

¶ Bung is now vsed for a pocket, heretofore for a purse.

Boord a shilling.

Halfe a Boord, sixpence.

Bowse drinke.

Bowling ken, an Ale house

Ben good.

Benship very good.

Buffa a Dogge.

Bing a wast, get you hence.

§ Budge a beake, runne away.

§ A Bite, secreta () mulierum.

Caster a Clocke.

§ Crackmans the hedge.

Comission a shirt.

§ To Castell, to see or looke.

§ A Roome Cuttle, a sword.

§ A Cuttle bung, a knife to cut a purse.

§ Chepemans, Cheape side market.

To Cut, to tell or call.

¶ Cut me ben whids, tell me truth.

¶ To Cut quire whids, to lie.

Crashing Cheates, Apples.

¶ Chates, the Gallowes: here he mistakes both the simple word, because he so found it printed, not knowing the true originall thereof, and also in the compound; as for Chates it should be Cheates, which word is vsed generally for things, as Tip me that Cheate, Giue me that thing: so that if you will make a word for the Gallous, you must put thereto this word Treyning, which signifies hanging; and so Treyning Cheate is as much to say, hanging things, or the Gallous, and not Chates.

Coue a man.

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¶ Cowch a Hogthead, to lie downe and sleepe: this phrase is like an Alminacke that is out of date: now the such word to sleepe is with them vsed, to sleepe, and ligen to lie downe.

§ Crancke, the falling sickenesse: and thereupon your Rogues that counterfeit the falling sickenes, are called counterfeit Crancks.

To Cly the Iarke, to be whipped.

Drawers Hosen.

Dudes Clothes.

Darkemans the night.

Dewsauell the Countrey.

Dup the gigger, open the dore.

§ A flicke a Thiefe.

Fambles hands.

Fambling Cheates, Kings.

§ Famblers, a paire of Gloues.

§ To Filch, to beate.

§ A Filchman, a cudgell or staffe.

Flag, a groate.

§ To Fence properly, to sell any thing that is stolne.

§ To Foyst, to picke a pocket.

§ A Feager of Loges one that beggeth with counterfeit writings.

Glasiers, eyes.

§ Greenemans the fields.

Gan a mouth.

Gage a quart pot.

Granam Corne.

Glymmer Fire.

Gigger a dore.

§ Gilkes for the gigger, false keyes for the dore or picklockes.

§ Gracemans, Gracious stréete market.

Gentry mort, a Gentlewoman.

Gentry Cous ken, a Gentlemans house.

to the Bel-man of London.

Harman becke the Constable.

Harmons the stockes.

§ Iockam a mans yard.

§ Ian a purse.

§ Iere a Turd.

Ken an house.

Stawling ken, a house to receiue stolne goods, or a dwelling house.

§ Lugges eares.

Lagge of dudes, a bucke of clothes.

§ Loges a passe or warrant.

§ A Feager of loges, one that beggeth with false passes.

Lybbeg a bedde.

Lower money.

Lybkin a house to lodge people.

Lagge water or pisse.

Lightmans the day.

Mynt gold.

The Muggill, the Beadle.

Make an halfpenny.

Maunding begging.

§ What maund doe you breake, what kind of begging vse you?

§ Ile myll your maund, Ile spoyle your begging.

§ To nip a Ian, to cut a purse.

§ Nab a head.

§ Nab cheate an hat.

§ Numans Newgate market.

¶ Nigling, company keeping with a woman: this word is not vsed now, but wapping, and thereof comes the name wapping morts Whoozes.

Prat a Buttocke.

§ Your prat whids Romely, you fart lustily.

¶ Pecke meate, pecke is not meate but peckage, pecke is taken to eate or byte: as the Buffa peckes me by the flampes, the dogge bites me by the shinnes.

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Ruff peck Baron.

§ Peckage meat o2 Scroofe scraps.

§ To Plant to hide.

§ Stow your whids and plant

§ The Coue of the ken can kant.

Prauncer an horse.

Prigging riding.

Patrico a Priest.

Pada a Lay.

§ Padder an high-way robber o2 purse taker.

§ Quire, this word is alwayes taken in il sense for naught

§ Quire ken a prison house.

§ Quire bowse bad drinke.

§ VVhat a quire whidding keepe you, what a scolding keep you?

Quarroms the body, o2 armes, o2 backe.

Roome vile a great towne, commonly taken for London.

Roome bowse wine : this word is alwayes taken in the best sense, to shew a thing extraordinary o2 excellent.

§ Roome bowsin ken, a Tauerne.

Roome mort a Quene o2 Gentlewoman, and so Roome Coue a Gentleman.

¶ Ruffmans, not the hedge o2 bushes as heretofore : but now the eaueling of houses o2 roofes : Cragmans is now bled for the hedge.

Ruffian the diuell.

§ Scrapes, fatte and glorious bittes : sound blowes and bangings.

§ The muggill will tip you fat scraps and glorious bits, the Beadle will well bumbast you.

Stampes legges.

Stampers shoves.

Slate a sheete.

Scew a Cuppe o2 Glasse, a Dish o2 any thing to drinke in.

Skipper a barne.

to the Bel-man of London.

¶ Salomon the masse : Now when many doe presse the
poore regues so earnestly to sweare by the Salomon, doe
not blame them though they refuse it; for although you
know not what it meanes, yet they very well know:
Many men I haue heard take this word Soloman to be
the chiefe commander among the beggers; but to put
them out of doubt, this is not he: marry there was one
Solomon in K. HENRY the eighths time that was a iol-
ly fellow among them, who kept his Court most an end
at Fore Hall at the vpper end of Lambeth (if it be true
as their Records make mention) who was Succes-
sour to Cocke Lorrell: of him and his successors much
is to bee spoken if licence may be graunted, and of
whose Ruannagate race I could frame a whole trea-
tise: but here enough.

§ A Stander, he that stands sentinel vpon the Pad or high-
way to robbe.

§ Stromell the straw.

§ Spreader butter.

¶ Smellar a garden, not Smelling cheate, for thats a Pole-
gay.

§ Treyning hanging.

§ Treyning cheate the gallous.

§ To tip to giue.

§ Tip a make ben Roome Coue, giue a halfe peny good
Gentleman.

To tower or Castell to see.

§ To whid to speake.

§ A Winne a penny.

§ VWhittington Newgate.

Yarrim pottage or milke.

And thus haue I runne ouer the Canters Dietiona-
ry, to speake more at large, would aske more time then
I haue allotted me, yet in this short time that I haue, I
meane to sing song for song with the Belman, ere I
wholly leaue him.

Towre

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1. Canyzon.

TOwre out ben merts & towre,
Looke out ben merts & towre,
For al the Roome coues are budgd a beake,
And the quire coues tippe the lowre.

The quire coues are budgd to the bowfing ken,
As Romely as a ball,
But if we be spid we shall be clyd,
And carried to the quirken hall.

Out budgd the Coue of the Ken,
With a ben filch in his quarr'me
That did the prigg good to bingd in the Risome,
To towre the Coue budge alar'me.

But now I will shew you what I heard at Knock-vergos, drinking there a pot of English Ale, two Maunders borne and bred by rogues wooing in their native language.

2. Canyzon.

O Ben mort wilt thou pad with me,
One ben slate shall serue both thee & me,
My Caster and Comission shall serue vs both to
My bong, my lowre & fambling cheates (maund,
Shall be at thy command.

O Ben Coue that may not be,
For thou hast an Autem mort who euer that is she,
If that she were dead & bingd to his long Libb,
Then would I pad and maund with thee,
And wap and for thee fibb.

○

to the Bel-man of London.

O ben mort Castle out & Towre, (the lowre,
Where all the Roome coues slopne that we may tip
Whē we haue tippt the lowre & fenc't away the duds
Then bingē we to the bowsing ken,
Thats cut the Robin Hood.

But O ben Coue what if we be clyd,
Long we cannot foist & nip at last we shal be spyed,
If that we be spied, O then begins our woe,
With the Harman beake out and alas,
To VWhittington we goe.

Stow your whids & plant, and whid no more of that,
Budg a beak the Crackmās & tip lowr with thy prat
If treyning thou dost seare, thou ner wilt foist a Ian,
Then mill, and wap and treine for me,
A gere peck in thy gan.

As they were thus after a strange maner a toowing, in
comes by chance a clapper dudgeon for a pinte of Ale,
who as sone as he was spied, they left off their roguish
poetry, and fell to mocke the pōre maunder, thus.

The Clapper dudgeon lies in the skipper,
He dares not come out for shame, 3. Canyon.
But when he binges out he dus budg to the Gigger,
Tipp in my skew good dame.

And thus hath the Bel man through his pitifull am-
bition caused me to write that I would not: And wheras
he disclaimes the name of Brother hood, I here utterly
renounce him & his fellowship, as not desirous to be re-
solued of any thing he professeth on this subiect, knowing
ff my

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my selfe to be as fully instructed herein as euer he was.
But hereof enough, if not more then enough: I meane
now to shew the originall and beginning of these peo-
ple, when they began to gather to an head, and how they
first came vp.

The Runnagates Race, or the O- riginall of Regiment of Rogues, when they first began to take head, and how they haue suc- ceeded one the other successiuelly, vntill about the sixe and twentieth yeare of King HENRY the eight, collected out of the Legend of LOSSELS.

29.X.H.6.

AT what time King Henry the first of famous memo-
rie bare rule ouer the Britanes, there was one
Iohn Mendal (alias Iack Cade) an Irish man, that named
himselfe by the name of Iohn Mortimer, cousen to the
Duke of Yorke, whereupon hee gathering together a
great company out of Kent, assured and perswaded
them, that the enterprise he toke in hand, was both ho-
nourable to God and the King, and profitable to the
whole Realme: the Kentish men moued with these per-
swasions and other faire promises, marched to blacke
heath, where they lay for a month pilling the Countrey
round about.

At the same time, which was about one thousand foure
hundred and fiftie, two vnruely fellows (the one named
Blewbeard, the other Hugh Roberts) which were lately
come ouer from France, who had been souldiers vnder
the Duke of Somerset and the Earle of Shrewsbury in
the winning and losing of Constance, Guyfons, Roane
and

to the Bel-man of London.

and diuers other Cities in France : the which Blew-
beard in a Commotion, shortly after he came ouer, being
made their Captaine, before he had attempted any thing
at all, was taken and executed : But Roberts keeping in
Kent, gathered a number of Rakehels and Vagabonds
together to the number of an hundred in that Countrey,
to whom likewise masterlesse men after they heard of
his fame, came cluttering on heapes, so that he had in a
short space to the number of five hundred followers.

Roberts the
first Com-
mander.

These sturdie Vagabonds ioyning with Iacke Men-
dall in this rebellion, march toward London, and enter
Southwarke, and there lodged at the white Harte for a
night or two, prohibiting al from Rape, robbery and mur-
der, the more to allure the hearts of the people to fauour
his enterprise. After, they come into London, and there
they play Rex, and returne backe into Southwarke a-
gaine, where, after many conflicts betwene them and
the Citizens, the Kings pardon was proclaimed : at
which hearing, the poore people were so glad, and so rea-
dy to receiue it, that without bidding farewell to their
Captaines, withdrew their selues euery man towards
his owne home.

Iack Mendall despairing of succours, and fearing the
reward of his lewd dealings, fled away into the woods :
But Proclamation made, that whosoever could bring
Iacke alive or dead to the King, should haue a thousand
Markes for his paines, was after slaine by a Gentleman
in Kent, and so brought to the King.

But Roberts kept himselfe in the woods closely a long
time after, although not with so great a company as he
had before, and there liued by robbing and spoyling in
the night, and kept themselves close in all the day. And
thus by the space of a twelue moneth, they passed their
time in villany, robbing and spoyling the Countrey peo-
ple of their poultry, pigges and other sustenance, where
with they sustained themselves and their families. In

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which time he set downe lawes and customes to be kept and obserued among them, and to keepe them in a we and fashon, who are prone of themselves to liue out of all rule and fashon.

1 First he appointed that of euery thing that they got, he had first the taking and leauing of the best thereof at his pleasure.

2 That if any of their fellowes could not purchase any victuals or necessities for soe that night, that then they shold be in commons with the rest the day following.

3 That no robbery or violence bee vsed vpon any man within foure miles of the wood, or the place of their aboade.

4 That none be so hardy, as to run to the wood for succor or reliefe, after he hath perpetrated any thing, lest that hugh and crie follow, and so discerie the whole company.

Thus after a yeare and vplward was spent by them in this sort, they brake vp their Campe, and Proclamati^on was made, to mee^te there in that place euery three yeares for a memoriall, if they then liued: In the meane time they spread themselves abroad in the Countrey, some remaining there, others traouelling forth ward, and ioyne themselves with the Duke of Yorke, and generally in all Commotions and rebellions. These in memory of there first acquaintance and loue to their new found Captaine, called themselves by the name of Roberts-men, as the seruants of Hugh Roberts their Commaunder.

This Roberts liued roving vp & down the country for the space of ten years: in which time he kept his Court daies as himselfe listed, and in which time there came to him diuers new followers, and as some decayed and died, some hanged & dead of the poore (for to that end they all come) so others succeeded in their places.

In the first yeare of Edward the fourth, this Roberts in
the

to the Bel-man of London.

the warres against Henry the first in the North partes (who was deposed) was there slaine, besides 36776. persons all Englishmen.

Hereupon presently (their late Captaine now dead) all that were left alive of this company, hve themselves to their wonted place of meeting, where, by the generall assent, they chose one (Ienkin Cowdiddle) to bee their ring-leader.

This Ienkin Cowdiddle was a man given much to swearing, drunkenness and lechery: he was neuer out of England as souldier or traveller, but from his first beginning he continued a wandering rogue, he was stout of stomacke, audacious and fierce, hee was knowne to all the damned crew for a boone companion, and therefore chosen as fittest for their Captaine: hee first ordained, that none were so hardy as to haue the vndoing of a maid wanderer, or any thing to do with her, vnlesse first she were brought to him to be broken vp, or to some of his assignes, that could obtain the same of him by friendship or bribery.

Ienkin Cowdiddle. 1.

Hee commaunded likewise that all beggers should spend all their gettings in the day past, in good Beere or Ale at night, or at the fardest by saterday night: and if any were found or knowne to haue aboue two pence half-peny in his purse on monday morning, he shold forfeit a dosen of beere, to any whatsoeuer of their company would challenge it. He exercised his commaund about tenne yeares, untill the time that the great rebellion and vmpire was in the Western parts, as Summer-setshire, Wilshire, Dorsetshire and Cornewall, about the crowning of Prince Edw. son to R.H. 6. who had been all this while in France: and this fell out about the 11. yeare of Edw. 4. then this Ienkin Cowdiddle accompanied with 300. tottered knaues, toynd in battell against the R. with the western men, in which battell at Tewbury he was slaine, and buried there with the rest of the dead bodies.

A Custome.

Edw. 4. 11. yeer
1471.

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Spising 3.

The battel ended, these Robert-men (for so they were termed a long time after) hve them to their Kandauow, their vsuall and knowne place, and there with the full consent of the whole company, They chose one Spising to be his successour.

And now when as the feast and solemnizing of this new made squire was newly ended, news was brought to this Spising, how that one Thomas Neuell sonne to Fankenbridge (who had bene at Sea as a Pirate, and robbed diuers Merchants) was newly arriued in England, and got a great company of Harriners out of all parts of the land, and many traytors and misgouerned people to follow him, whereunto as fitly for his turne this Spising accompanies and enters into league and familiarity, besides diuers also forth of other Countries that delighted in theft and robberies.

And now his strength encreased daily, for hauing bin at Callice, and brought from thence into Kent many euill disposed persons, he began to gather his power in that Country, meaning to attempt some great and wicked enterprise against King Edward and his Kingdome, but his quarrell he pretended, was to haue King Henry the first out of the Towre, and to restore him to his Scepter againe. Thus accompanied with seuentene thousand men, they marched into London by Shippes which lay betwene Blacke wall and Redriffe: and then came Spising with his band at Algate, who behaued themselves skoutly, that they wan the Bulwarke there, and drave the Citizens backe within the Port cullis, and entered the gate with them to the number of a dosen; but some of them were slaine with the fall of the Port cullis, that was let downe vpon them to keepe the residue out: but those that were within the wals was suddenly dispatched.

To be short, at last the Bastard was vanquished and vtterly dispaired; for hearing the King comming with thirtie

to the Bel-man of London.

thirtie thousand men, durst stay no longer, but brake vp and dispersed themselues some one way, and some another. The Bastard with his Mariners and such rebels, robbers & wicked persons, as sought nothing but spoile, got them to Ship-board as fast as they could. Those that were left behinde, and those of Spysings company lurked a day or two about the Countrey secretly in woods, vntill they thought the coastes to be clear, and after met at their wonted place, where they, as merry as pot and canne passe their time in villany and robbery.

This Spysing was a man giuen to voluptuousnesse, pleasure, and delight in Bowling and Tlenerie: He ordered, that euery one that professed himselse a Wanderer, and taking vpon him the occupation of begging, shall be stauled to the order of rogues; that is, hee shall bee brought to the chiefe Commander then being, and there he shall shew the cause of his going abroad, and what Countrey man he is: which done, he payes a doulzen of beere as a fine for his freedome and Instaument, and so is permitted to liue and die a rogue: but if he be borne a rogue: that is, if his Grandfather were one, so that consequently he must be one also, such a one shall bee freely discharged from such enstalement, as being made free by his fathers copie. This Spysing about the first yeare of King Edward the fift, committed a robbery and murder (nere High-gate in Middlesex) where after he fledde and tooke sanctuary at Westminster, for these places in that time were wonderfully abused by wicked men: rablements of Thieves, Murderers and Traytors would thither flocke when they had atchiened any villany, vntill they rpyot and runne in debt vpon boldnesse of these places, rich men runne thither with poore mens goods; there they build and there they spend, and bid their creditors goe whistle, mens wiues runne thither with their husbands plate, and say they dare not abide with their husbands, for feare of beating: Therues bring in thither

A Custome.

K. Edw. 5. 3.

1483.

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ther their stolne goods, and there liue vpon them vntill al is spent, and when nothing is left, they againe in the night range abroad to seek other booties: there they devise new plots to rob and kill, and then to come in again at their pleasure: so those places did not only giue them safegard for their villanies, but a license also to do more. Such a one was this Spysing for a yeare or two before he was hanged; for being taken the second time at Womburne in Staffordshire, for killing a man in a drunken humour, was presently apprehended, and carried to the Goale, and after hanged all saue the head: he Dominieered about eleyen yeares.

Not long after, when certaine netues was blased abroad of their Captaines confusion, they chose a notable swaggering rogue called Puffing Dicke, to reuell ouer them, who plaid reuell rout with them indeede: in this Squire there were no villanies left vnattempted, but he was still at the one end.

Puffing Dicke
the fourth.

2. Sorts of
robbers by
the way.
The first sort.

He first gaue termes to robbers by the high way, that such as robbe on horse-backe were called high lawyers, and those who robbed on foote, he called Wadders: the difference of these two sorts of villanies is this.

The first sort are called Gent. robbers or thieues; and these ride on horses well appointed, and goe in thew like honest men: the other robbe on foote, and haue no other helpe but a paire of light heeles and a thicke woode. Concerning the first sort, that delight in the credite of a high Lawver, that with their Swords freeboot abroad in the countrey like Caualeroes on horse-backe, are commonly such men, that eyther are younger brethren, who being brought vp in idlenesse and gaming, when their friends are dead, do fall to this kind of life to maintaine the maine chance: others againe being left well by their friends, hauing no gouernement of themselves, but banqueting with Whores, and making late suppers, doe greatly impouerish and begger themselves: and when all

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all is spent after this manner, and their money wasted like snow against the Sunne: they for their Vltimum refugium, as forced to undertake this wretched and abhorred profession, robbing honest poore men, and taking all their money from them, yea and often more then is their owne, to the vtter vndoing of the poore man, his wife and children for euer, who when they haue it, wast it as vainly as they wickedly purchast it. And others, that hauing bene souldiers when they come from the warres, eyther by breaking vp of the Campe, or by running away from their colours to see their friends, or what way soeuer, cannot betake themselues to any honest trade of life, but louing to liue in idlenesse, betake themselues to robbing and stealing, untill they be taken and carried westward there to make their reherfall.

These fellows first that they may not be knowne, bespeake and get such artificiall beards and heads of haire, that although you ride, dine, and sup with them from day to day, you shall not be able to discerne them, nor espie their fallshood. And in this practise all their villany consists: for I haue heard and partly know a high-way lawyer rob a man in the morning, and hath dined with the martin or honest man so robbed the same day at an Inne being not descried, nor yet once mistrusted or suspected for the robbery.

Their knauery is on this manner; they haue alwaies good geldings and trusty, which they can make Curtailes when they list, and againe set too large tailes, hanging to the fetlockes at their pleasure, yea and so artificially, that it shall not be perceined or spied of the Ostler that dresseth them: besides they haue clokes Tormosant, as they call them, made with two out-sides, that weare them howsoeuer the right side will bee alwaies outward: now their artificiall beards and heads of haire withall, will make them seme to dance in a net a long time ere they be espied. Now how easie it is for
G them

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them to escape all dangers, all Hurts and Cries, it may easily be perceiued, for the complexion of the man, and his beard, the garments that he weares, and the making of his horse, thre things which are the especiall markes whereby notice is taken to make enquiry: which being chaunged and altered, they may escape as safely as they did the robbery.

The other sort of robbers, that hauing no meanes to relieue them, in stead of swift courses to eschue danger, flie away vpon their trustie ten-toes into wodes and close places, there to continue vntill Hue and Crie bee past: these fellows weare counterfeited beards and heads of haire, as the other sort doe, vsing not many words, but Stand and deliuer: some will haue curst and man-kind Masties following them, to further and helpe them in this enterprise: some vnder the name of the vpright man or souldier as they goe through towne, begge the charitable deuotion of people, they will goe also strongly with thre or foure in a company to a farme house, where oftentimes they are relieued more for feare then deuotion: but when they can come in place where they may conveniently take a purse, it shall goe hard but that they will eyther win the horse or loose the saddle, although their hardy aduenture be paid home with a cracke of the best ioynt they haue after.

The first cou-
soner at dice.

But to returne againe to Puffing Dicke; this diuell incarnate, as he was bold to attempt any wicked enterprise, so he wanted not wit first to lay the plot to atchieue it, and to bring it to passe. He vsed first the coulenage at dice, and to inuent for that purpose false dice, whereby he got much money. But as it was ill got, so was it as ill spent in all manner of vice that could bee named, wherein he excelled all before him: yet this by the way, it is reported of him, that he was free from murder, and commanded, that whosoever vnder his conduct, was so cruell as to murder any man or woman in the attempt
of

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of robbing them, should forthwith be discovered to be apprehended: he likewise ordered that all high lawyers, padders, Lifts, Foists, Cheaters or Cony-catchers, shall ^{A Custome.} not presume to purchase any landes or reuenues, nor whord by their money to the hinderance of good fellowship, maintenance of good natured damfels, and impeachment of the fraternity: but that they shall heartily spend it, among good company and fellowes, such as themselves are, and as they came lightly by it, so lightly to let it flie: he was a man crafty and bolde, yet he died miserably; for after he had commanded now fully eight years, he had the pyning of the Dore and Neapolitane Scurffe. And here an end of Puffing Dicke.

In his place was chosen by the consent of the rablement, one not much inferiour in vice to the former, but in regard of manhood a meere crauant, called Lawrence Crosbiter, or long Lawrence. ^{Lawrence Crosbiter s. The first inuenter of crosbiting.} This Lawrence had bene brought vp all his daies a Seruing-man, and now being about fiftie or thre score, at what time Seruingmen are past the best, and commonly grow lasie, was cast out of seruice, and so was faine to liue among the wicked, sometimes a stander for the padder, sometimes a berser for the cony-cacher, sometimes a scale for a foyst, but most commonly an Apple-squire for a trudging house: he first vsed that art which now is named Crosbiting, and from whose name, this damned art (Crosbiting) toke her first call, as of Lawrence Crosbiter that first inuented the same. The manner in breefe is thus: Some base rogue without the feare of God or man, that keepeth a whore as a friend, or marries one to be his maintainer, consents or constraines those creatures to yelde the vse of their bodies to other men, that so taking them together, they may strip the leacher of all the money in his purse or that he can presently make.

He commaunded about sixe yeares, and then as he liued in filthinesse, so was his end, for it was reported that

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his bowels were eaten out with the pore, whilst he was yet alive, so miserable was the end of this wretch.

All these fire yeares that this Lawrence liued in his controulment, he durst neuer be so hardy as once to aide Perkin VVarbeck, in the attempting of the Crowne: so flauish was his mind, and giuen to cowardize, for all the time that he bare rule among his companions, which was from 1491. vntil 1497. did Perkin VVarbeck assay to win the kingdom, sayning himselfe to bee the Duke of Yorke, son to R. Edw. 4. deceased: to the bringing to passe of which denise, he assayed many waies, plotted diuers deuises, and attempted mighty matters, and yet all in vaine, for after almost fire yeares (all which time he was busied about this enterprize) he was taken prisoner, after he had taken Sanctuary at Beboldy not farre from Southampton.

To set down the whole story of this Perkin Warbeck it would be long, & besides from the matter now in hand: but because the sequell of the story a little concerneth vs, I will briefly runne it ouer: and thus it was.

Perkin Warbeck his pedegree

He was a man base of stocke, a Fleming by birth, and prouoked to faine himselfe the sonne of R. Edward 4. by the Duches of Burgony, sister to King Edward 4.

He first went into Ireland out of Fraunce, to entice the Irish to rebell, after called backe by the French King to goe against King Henry the seuenth then inuading Fraunce: after this he lands in Kent, purposing to proue the people, how they were affected towards him: hereupon hee sends some of his men out of the Shippes to know their minds: but they were suddenly taken by the Sheriffe of Kent, and railed in ropes like horses in Carts, were adiudged most to be hanged; but Perkin hopps by his sails at these tydings, & away sailes he again into Ireland, where he staies not long, being a place not fit for his turne, the people being poore & naked, he sailes into Scotland, where after a smooth long Dra-
tion,

Sailes into Scotland and marries the Kings kinsewoman.

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fion, to the King hee is royally entertained by the said King: after ward the King to perswade the world y all was true, espouseth the La. Katharine, daughter to Alexander Earle of Huntley his nigh kinsman, to him: then go they both against England, waiking all Northumberland, & committing many outrages and enormities: but when they saw no aid to come from England they retire; after Perkin (vpon the truce between England and Scotland) with his wife saile into Ireland again: from thence cuts ouer into Cornwal, wher he gathered to him aboue 3000. persons, all promising him to take his part, and follow him till death.

He goes against Engl.

Rebyres.

After into Cornewall.

His three Councillors.

They assay to win Exet.

He takes Sanctuary at Bewdley.

First then by the aduise of his Councillours, John Heron Mercer, a Bankrout, Richard Skelton a Taylor, and John Astley a Scriuener, they assay the winning of Exeter, where for lacke of Munition for Warre, and Ordnance to breake open the Gates, they endeouored by casting of stones, lifting with Iron barres, and kindling of fires vnder the Gates, to bring to passe their purpose: much a doo there was heere about this enterprise: But when hee heard the King comming with his power, hee remooues to Taunton, and the King after him: vppon this hee flies to Bewdley, and there takes Sanctuary, but after yeldes himselfe to the mercy of the King, who being deliuered to the Kings Guard carefully to be kept, notwithstanding escapeth, and thought to get ouer into Flanders: but the Sea coasts being all laid that he could not passe, he was in a great perplexity, came backe to the Prior of Shorne besides Richmond, and there intreats the Prior, even for Gods sake to beg his life of the King: The K. at the request of the Prior pardoned him, but was set in the Locks at Westminst. hal doze a whole day, & so likewise y next day was he set on a Scaffold at the Standard in Cheapside, with many mocks & reuillings cast against him: being now in hold again by false

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Executed at
Tyburne.

1497.

H.7.13.

Skelton 6.

A custome.

Cock Lorrell 7
K.H.8.4.
1511.

perswasions and great promises corrupted his keepers, and would haue fledde away, but his purposes being knowne, he was at last apprehended, taken, and executed at Tyburne, he and his keepers. And this is the end of Perkin Warbecke: Lawrence Crosbiter now dead, and Perkin VVarbecke, with two of his Councellores Hearne and Asleley, fledde to Sanctuary: it booted not the company to stay there, but their chiefe leaders fledde, euerie one threiw away his armour as people amazed, and betake themselves to their heeles: among the rest Skelton a notable knaue, one of Perkins Councellores before mentioned, being well knowne among the Rascalitie, was led to the wonted place of meeting, and there solemnely was stawled a rogue, and made their generall.

This Skelton was sometimes a Taylor in Taunton in Sommerfet shire, who being blowne downe with an vnfortunate blast, was forc't and ready for any Commotion or rebellion: he was of a proude and haughty disposition: he liued in this new Gouernment untill about the fourth yeare of King Henry the eight, which was in the yeare 1501.

This fellow among other decrees and orders confirmed this: That if any one vsing the necessary helpe of his crutches (although indeede hee hath not any made or vse of them, but onely to deceiue people therewith) shall at any time forsake them for a time, either to runne for a wager with another, or to play at nine-holes, loggets or bowles, or any other game, so that he be sene and marked by some that haue sene him else-where with his crooches halting, and by them so challenged for a counterfeit rogue, he shall forfeite for every such offence two dosen of beere, as a fine for disgracing so ancient a trade as peregrination.

After him succeeded by the Generall Councell, one Cocke Lorrell, the most notorious knaue that euer liued: by trade he was a Tinker, often carrying a panne and a ham

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hammer for a shew : but when he came to a good booty, he would cast his profession in a ditch, and play the padder and then would away, and as hee past through the towne, would crie, Ha you any worke for a Tinker. To write of his knaueries, it would aske a long time : I referre you to the old manuscript, remayning on record in maunders hall.

This was he that reduced and brought in forme the Catalogue of Hagabonds or quarterne of knaues called the five and twentie orders of knaues : but because it is extant and in euery mans shop, I passe them ouer.

The quarterne
of knaues
made by Cock
Lorrell.

And now about this time, when as warres abroad, and troubles domesticall were ended, swarmed in euery part of the land these Caterpillers, like flies against a plague : in the northerne partes another sort of Hagabonds (at the diuels arse a peake in Darbshire) began a new regiment, calling themselves by the name of Egyptians : These were a sort of rogues, that liued and do yet liue by coufening and deceit, practising the arte called legerdemaine, or fast and loose, whereby they got to themselves no small credite among the Countrey people by their deepe dissembling and deceitfull practises, feeding the common people wholly addicted and giuen to nouelties, toys and new fangles, delighting them with the strangenesse of the attire of their heads, and practising palmistry to such as would know their fortunes.

Egyptians.

The first that inuented this new fellowship was one Giles Hather : he carried about with him his whore called (Kyt Calot) which was termed the Queene of Egypties : they goe alwaies neuer vnder an hundred men or women, causing their faces to be made blacke, as if they were Egyptians : they wander vp and down the Countrey as it pleaseth them best, with their horses to carry their balliards and baggage after them : and when they come into any countrey towne, they pittifully coufen the
pore

Kyt Calot.

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poore countrey girles, both of money, siluer and the best linnen onely in hope to heare their good fortunes tould them.

Read of these in the first pag
Canting, when brought vp.
After a certaine time that these vp-start Loffels had got vnto a head; the two chiefe Commanders of both these regiments met at the Diuels arse-a-peake, there to parle and intreate of matters that might tend to the establishing of this their new found gouernment: and first of all they thinke it fit to deuise a certaine kinde of language, to the end their coulenings, knaueries and villanies might not be so easily perceiued and knowne, in places where they come: And this their language they spunne out of three other tongues, viz. Latine, English, and Dutch: these three especially, notwithstanding some few words they borrowed of the Spanish and French. They also gaue names to such persons of their company according to the kind of life that he vnderooke: as for example, A common begger or rogue, they termed a Clapper-dudgeon, one that counterfeited the falling sicknes, they termed him a counterfeit Cranke, for Cranke in their language is the falling sicknesse, and so Counterfeit Cranke is the false falling sicknesse: and so of the rest.

This Cocke Lorrell continued among them longer then any of his predecessours before him, or after him: for he ruled almost two and twentie yeares, vntil the yeare An.Dom. 1533. and about the sixe and twenty yeare of K. Henry the eight.

Orders.

I He made among other, these Statutes among them, that whosoever he be, that being borne and bred vp in the trade of maunding, nipping and soisting for the space of tenne yeares, and hath not the right dexterity in his fingers to picke a pocket, but is faunte to cloy his fellowes, and cowardly to demand scrappage; such a one is to be knowne and brought hither to be fined for his fainte

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faint-heartednesse: and if such a one after venter and be taken vpon the first fault, let him know, that he is going the high way to perdition without pittie, as a iust punishment for his folly, that he betooke himselfe so soone to the occupation.

2. Item, We thinke it meet that none eate meat, as Pigges, Capons, Geese or suchlike, vnlesse he purchase it by priuie pilferie and cleanly conueyance, neither shall they be merry in euery Bowling Ken or Alehouse as they list, but in some odde out house remote from dwellers: a Stawling Ken that is knowne of purpose to be trusty, yea and that in the night too, least they be notified and suspected, to the scandalizing of the profession: neither shall they be merry out of measure, least by their extraordinary noyses, the Constable and Watch men take them, and so carry them to ward, as a iust punishment for their presumptuous and vnorinate proceedings: for which some of late daies haue woefully felt the smart.

Captaine Giles Hather first beganne in Anno Domini one thousand five hundred twenty and eight: concerning whom, there is nothing made mention of, but of his coursonage and deceit, for these kinde of people liued more quietly and out of harme in respect of the other sort, making themselves as strangers, and would neuer put forth themselves in any tumult or Commotion, as the other sort did: but what vice they exercised not one way, they were not inferiour to them in the like, or rather worse another way; so that what betwene them both, they were two pestiferous members in a Common wealth: but I will leaue them both, and pray for a prosperous winde to bring my Warke to the wished port of her desire, which is to be fauoured and well liked of in your sight: which if good fortune fauour me so much, I shall be bouldened once more to play the Merchant venturer:

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turer : at whose second arriuall I will present you with
things more strange, not farre fetcht but deere bought,
and wherein, if license may be permitted, I will proceed
and set downe the successours from Cocke Lorrell
vntill this present day, and who at this
day beares the greatest sway
amongst them.

FINIS